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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1941,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa:

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1, Milverton Hill,
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To the Warwick Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith the Report for 1941; it is again regretted that the Report should be so delayed.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is again only a short statement of fact with no comment. All the available information is, however, being kept for record and, if required, can be produced.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues,

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Warwick Rural District.

A. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1941	—
Birth Rate	12.6
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	29
Death Rate	9.8
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth — From Sepsis ...	—
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth — ,, other causes	1
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	47
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	3

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(*a*) *Public Health Officers.*—No change.

2. (*a*) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	12 ...	22 ...	34
Enteric Fever...	1 ...	2 ...	3
Tuberculosis ...	2 ...	6 ...	8
			45

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water.*—Despite the War it has been possible for the work of providing a piped supply of water to Radford Semele and an extension of the Whitnash supply to Harbury Lane to be completed.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*—There is no change to report.

2. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*—There is no change to report excepting in Whitnash, where five pail closets were replaced by W.C.'s.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*—Public Cleansing is carried out in nine parishes by direct labour, but owing to shortage of staff and vehicles the service has been greatly curtailed.

The new Cesspool Emptier, however, has been a notable improvement. It is fitted for the collection of nightsoil pails.

D. HOUSING.

3. *Overcrowding.*—There has, as could only be expected, been a great deal of overcrowding in various parts of the District, but it has not been possible to ascertain the extent. Much of it was of a temporary character.

4. *Re-housing.*—The fourteen new houses at Cubbington referred to last year are not yet completed. It is hoped that it will be possible to do so in the near future.

Throughout the District, houses subject to Clearance or Demolition Orders which became vacant during the year were in most cases relet to eligible tenants, such houses being made subject to licences to relet.

5. *Fitness of Houses.*—Six houses were thoroughly repaired following notices issued in relation to houses calling for urgent attention.

6. *Temporary Housing.*—Some concern has been caused by the number of temporary hutments which have been erected recently, many without plan or notice being given. These are inspected, and where possible licensed as temporary buildings.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The position regarding the production of milk remains fairly satisfactory. The year brought some improvements in cowshed and dairy buildings, and included :—Rebuilding of three cowsheds, erection of three cooling sheds, provision of new coolers, installation of three steam sterilizers. One cowshed was discontinued.

There was a considerable increase in the number of milking machines installed, and at practically all farms producing Accredited milk sterilizing appliances are in use.

The County Council issued 77 licences to accredited producers in this District, the same number as last year, and 7 licences to producers of Tuberculin Tested milk, as compared with six last year.

Meat Inspections.—There is no slaughter house in use in the Ministry of Food Centralized Scheme, but frequent visits were paid to the slaughter house supplying two institutions in the District, and a large number of inspections were undertaken in connection with pigs, for which licences to slaughter had been issued by the Food Executive Officer. In all, 151 beats, 283 pigs, 385 sheep and lambs, and 15 calves were inspected.

The total weight of meat not considered fit for human consumption amounted to 1,150lbs., and comprised 1,007lbs. of beef, 80lbs. of pork, and 63lbs. of mutton. In addition two beasts, the subject of emergency slaughter, were rejected but were forwarded to an abattoir outside the District for disposal. Included in the total was one beast found to have suffered from septic pericarditis. Other conditions encountered included localised tuberculosis and parasitic affections.

Other Food.—Numerous visits were paid to retail shops and premises used for the storage of food. A large number of eggs and quantities of tinned food were rejected as unfit for human consumption.

New Buildings.

54 Plans of New Buildings were received.
8 were for houses.
7 ,, garages.

The remainder were Temporary and other Buildings.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1934.

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1935 ...	8	16	—	10	—	—
1936 ...	26	23	—	7	1	—
1937 ...	11	15	—	20	—	1
1938 ...	14	23	—	17	—	1
1939 ...	11	47	—	11	—	—
1940 ...	10	17	3	18	—	1
1941 ...	37	18	2	52	—	2

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1941.

Diphtheria.—The greater number of the cases notified were in a temporary Evacuee Sick Bay in the District.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—During the year immunisation of the school children was commenced, and up to December 31st 1,221 children between 5 and 15 years were treated, also 141 under 5 years.

School Closures :—

Sherbourne. 29th April to 12th May. Whooping Cough.
Beausale. 28th July to Summer Holidays. Measles.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Age—Periods	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
25	4	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	4	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	10	14	1	2	2	2	1	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

During the year 27 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 24 of which were of pulmonary and 3 of other forms of tuberculosis.

Sanatorium.—During the year 9 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 5 were discharged.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and is being kept for reference.

Table I.

RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year 1941.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served. Statutory.	Notices served. Informal.	Nuisances Abated after Notices.
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	704	4	41	34
Dairies, Milkshops and Cow Sheds	108	—	11	—
Bakehouses	8	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses & Butchers' Shops	106	—	—	—
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises ...	62	—	—	—
Food Preparation Premises ...	70	—	—	—
Shops	6	—	—	—
Factories	4	—	1	1
Water Supply	46	1	10	6
House Drainage	87	12	37	35
Water-closets	30	1	15	13
Conversion of Earth Closets to Water Closets	43	—	13	11
Conversion of Privies to Earth Closets	4	—	2	1
Ashbins	12	—	8	8
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	4	—	2	2
Miscellaneous Nuisances	24	—	7	7
Totals	1318	18	147	118

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	49
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	26
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	9
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	47
Proceedings, Food and Drug Acts	1

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1941 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births. Nett. Number.	Births. Nett. Rate.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. Under 1 Year of age. Number.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. Under 1 Year of age. Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. At all Ages. Number.	Nett Deaths belonging to the District. At all Ages. Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1935	14,050	179	12.7	6	33	141	10.0
1936	14,450	171	11.8	5	29	145	10.0
1937	14,780	188	12.7	13	69	159	10.1
1938	15,020	224	14.9	9	40	138	9.2
1939	—	—	12.9	—	40	—	10.5
1940	—	—	15.2	—	26	—	10.2
1941	—	—	12.6	—	46	—	9.8

Table III.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1941.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	37	.....	6	26	4	1	.....	.....	34	...
Erysipelas	22	.....	.....	1	1	5	11	4	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	18	.....	5	5	6	2	.....	.....	13	.....
Typhus Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	52	1	.....	2	4	20	18	7	.....	10
Malaria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	..
Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Polio-Encephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	24	.....	.....	.....	2	18	4	.....	.....	6
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	162	1	11	35	21	49	34	11	47	16

TABLE IV.

WARWICK RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1941.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	84	94
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	1
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	4
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	2	—
9 Influenza	2	—
10 Measles	—	1
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	1	1
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	1	1
15 Cancer of Breast	—	2
16 Cancer, other Sites	8	8
17 Diabetes	—	2
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions...	7	11
19 Heart Disease	28	27
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	2	1
21 Bronchitis	1	5
22 Pneumonia	3	7
23 Other Resp. Diseases	1	2
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	3	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)...	2	1
26 Appendicitis	1	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	2	2
28 Nephritis	3	3
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	1
31 Premature Birth	1	1
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc....	—	—
33 Suicide	1	—
34 Road Traffic Accidents	2	—
35 Other Violent Causes	1	5
36 All Other Causes	10	7